THE DECREE FOR TYTHES To be Paid in LONDON.

LONDON,
Printed by *John Wolfe*, Printer to the honorable City of *London*, 1596.

THE

DECREE

FOR

TYTHES

To be payed in

LONDON.

AS touching the payments of Tythes in the City of London and the Liberties of the same; It is fully ordered and decreed by the most Reverend Father in God, Thomas Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate and Metropolitane of all England, Thomas Lord Wriothesley and Lord Chancellor of England, William Lord Saint John, president of the Kings Majesties Councel, and Lord great Master of his Highness Houshold; John Lord Russel Lord Privy-Seal, Edward Earl of Hertford Lord great Chamberlain of England; John Viscount Lisle, high Admiral of England; Richard Lyster Knight, chief Justice of England; and Roger Cholmeley Knight, chief Baron of his graces Exchequer, this present twenty and four day of February, Anno Domini secundum cursum & computationem Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ, millesimo, quingentesimo, quadragesimo

drageſimo quinto; according to the Statute in ſuch caſe lately provided, That the Citizens and Inhabitants of the ſaid City of London and Liberties of the ſame, for the time being, ſhall yearly, without fraud or covin, for ever pay their Tythes to the Parſons, Vicars, and Curates of the ſaid City, and their ſucceſſors for the time being, after the rate hereafter following: That is to wit, of every ten ſhillings rent by year, of all and every Houſe and Houſes, Shops, Warehouſes, Cellers, and Stables, and every of them within the ſaid City and Liberties of the ſame, ſixteen pence half penny. And of every twenty ſhillings rent by year of all, and every ſuch Houſe and Houſes, Shops, Warehouſes, Cellers and Stables, and every of them within the ſaid City and Liberties, two ſhillings and nine pence: And ſo above the rent of xx. s. by year aſcending from x s. to x s. according to the rate aforeſaid. Item that where any leaſe is, or ſhall be made of any dwelling houſe or houſes, ſhops, warehouſes, cellers, or ſtables, or of any of them, by fraud or covin, reſerving leſs rent than hath been accuſtomed, or is, or that any ſuch leaſe ſhall be made without any rent reſerved upon the ſame, by reaſon of any fine or income payed before hand, or by any other fraud or covin: That then in every ſuch caſe, the Tenant or Fermour, Tenants or Fermours thereof, ſhall pay for his or their Tythes of the ſame after the rate aforeſaid, according to the quantity of ſuch rent or rents, as the ſame houſe or houſes, ſhops, warehouſes, cellers, or ſtables, or any of them were laſt letten for without fraud or covin before the making of ſuch leaſe.

Item that every Owner or Owners, Inheritour or Inheritours of any dwelling houſe or houſes, ſhops, warehouſes, cellers, or ſtables, or any of them within the ſaid City and Liberties, inhabiting or occupying the ſame himſelf or themſelves, ſhall pay after ſuch rate of Tythe as is aforeſaid, after the rate of the quantity of ſuch yearly rent as the ſame was laſt letten for without fraud or covin.

Item if any perſon or perſons have taken, or hereafter ſhall take any Meaſe or Manſion place by leaſe, and the taker or takers thereof, his or their executors or aſſigns doth or ſhall inhabit in part thereof, and have or hath within eight years laſt paſt before this order, or hereafter will or ſhall let out the reſidue of the ſame; That then in ſuch caſe, the principal Fermor or Fermors, or firſt taker or takers thereof, his or their execu-

tors

Citizens and Inhabitants.

Payment for eve y x s. rent xvi d. ob.

Houſes, Shops, Warehouſes, Cellers, Stables.

xx s. ii s. ix d.

Secundum rarum.

Leaſe by fraud

Reſerving leſs rent then accuſtomed.

Fine.

Then according to rent laſt before.

Inheritors or Owners.

After rents laſt letten.

Leaſe.

Divide houſe

Then.

tays or assigns, shall pay his or their Tythes after the rate aforesaid, according to his or their quantity therein; and that his or their executors, assign or assigns, shall pay his or their Tythes after the rate abovesaid, according to the quantity of his or their rent by year. Fermor to pay *quodum quantitatus*. Assign after his rent.

And that if any person or persons have, or shall take divers mansion houses, shops, warehouses, cellers or stables in one lease, and letteth, or shall let out one or more of the said houses, and keepeth, or shall keep one or more in his or their own hands, & inhabiteth or inhabited in the same, That then the said taker or takers, and his or their executors or assigns, shall pay his or their Tythes after the rate abovesaid, according to the quantity of the yearly rent of such mansion house or houses reteined in his or their hands. Ease of. Divers Mansion houses. Let one or more. Keep one or more. Tacks according to quantity.

And that his assign or assigns of the residue of the said Mansion house or houses, shall pay his or their yearly Tythes after the rate abovesaid, according to the quantity of their yearly rents. Assign after his rent.

Item if such fermour or fermours, or his or their assigns of any mansion house or houses, warehouses, shops, cellers, stables, or hath at any time within eight years last past, or shall hereafter let over all the said mansion house or houses conteined in his or their lease, to one person, or to divers persons; That then the inhabitants leases, or occupiers of them, and of every of them, shall pay their Tythes after the rate of such rents as the said inhabitants leases or occupiers, and their assign or assigns been or shall be charged withal, without fraud or covin. Fermor of Mansion-house, Warehouses, &c.

Item if any dwelling house within eight years last past was, or hereafter shall be converted into a warehouse, storehouse or such like, or if a warehouse, storehouse or such like within the said eight years was, or shall hereafter be converted into a dwelling house: That then the occupier or occupiers thereof shall pay Tythes for the same, after the rate above declared of mansion house rents.

Item that where any person shall demise any Diehouse or Brewhouse with implements, convenient and necessary for Dying or Brewing, reserving a rent upon the same, as well in respect of such implements, as in respect of such Diehouse or Brewhouse, That then the Tenant shall pay his Tythes after such rate as is abovesaid, the third penny abated. And that every Diehouses. Brewhouse.

very principal house or houses with key or wharf, having any crane or gibet belonging to the same, shall pay after like rate of their rents, as is aforesaid, the third penny abated. And that other wharfs belonging to houses, having no crane or gibet, shall pay for their Tythes as shall be paid for mansion houses in form aforesaid.

Mansion house

Item that where any mansion house with a shop, stable, warehouses, wharf with cranes, timber yard, teinter yard, or garden belonging to the same, or as parcel of the same, is or shall be occupied together, that if the same be hereafter severed or divided, or at any time within eight years last past were severed or divided, That then the fermor or fermors, occupier or occupiers thereof shall pay such Tythes as aboveſaid, for such shops, stable, warehouse, wharf with crane, timber-yard, teinter-yard, or garden aforesaid, so severed or divided after the rate of their several rents thereupon reserved.

Item that the said Citizens and Inhabitants shall pay their Tythes quarterly, that is to say, at the feast of Easter, the Nativity of St. John Baptist, the feast of St. Michaell the Archangel, and the Nativity of our Lord, by even portions.

Item that every housholder paying ten shillings rent or above, shall for him or herself be discharged of their four offering dayes; but his wife, children, servants or others of their family, taking their rites of the Church at Easter, shall pay two pence for their four offering dayes yearly.

Provided alwayes, and it is decreed, That if any house or houses which hath been, or hereafter shall be letten for ten shillings rent by year or more, be or hath at any time within eight years last passed, or hereafter shall be divided and leased into small parcels or members, yielding less yearly rent then ten shillings by year, That then the owner or owners if he or they dwell in any part of such house, or else the principal lease or leases, if the owner or owners do not dwell in some part of the same, shall from henceforth pay for his or their Tythes, after such rate of rent as the same house was accustomed to be letten for before such division, or dividing into parts or members: And the under-fermor and fermers, lease and leases to be discharged of all Tythes for such small parcels, parts or members rented at less yearly rent than ten shillings by year, without fraud or covin, paying two pence apiece yearly for their four offering dayes.

Provided

Provided alway, and it is decreed, That for such gardens as appertain not to any Mansion-house, which any person or persons holdeth, or shall hold in his or their hands for pleasure, or to his own use, that then the person so holding the same, shall pay no Tithes for the same. But if any person or persons, which holdeth or shall hold any such garden, containing half an acre, or more, doth, or shall make anie yearly profit thereof by way of sale: that then he or they shall pay Tithes for the same after such rate of his rent as is herein first above specified. Gardens.

Provided also, that if anie such gardens, now being of the quantity of half an acre or more, be hereafter by fraud or cabin divided into less quantity or quantities, then to pay Tithe according to the rate abovesaid. Gardens.

Provided alwayes, That this decree shall not extend to the houses of great men, or noble men, or noble women, kept in their own hands, and not letten for anie rent, which in time past hath payed no Tithes, so long as they shall so continue unletten, nor to anie Halls of Crafts or Companies, so long as they be kept unletten; so that the same Halls in time past have not used to pay anie Tithes. Noblemen, &c. Halls.

Provided alwayes, and it is decreed, That this present order and decree shall not in anie wise extend to bind or charge anie sheds, stables, cellers, timber-yards, ne tainter-yards, which were never parcel of anie dwelling house, ne pertaining or belonging to anie dwelling house, ne have accustomed to pay anie Tithes, but that the said Citizens and Inhabitants, shall thereof be quit of paiment of anie Tithes, as it hath been used and accustomed. Sheds, Stables, Yards, &c.

Provided also, and it is decreed, That where less summe than after the rate of sixteen pence half penny in the ten shillings rent, or less summe than two shillings and nine pence in the twenty shillings rent, hath been accustomed to be pated for Tithes, That then and in such places, the said Citizens and Inhabitants shall pay but onely after such rate as hath been accustomed. Less summe. Rate accustomed.

Item it is also decreed, That if a variance, controversie or strife, do, or shall hereafter arise in the said Citie for non-paiment of any Tithes; or if anie variance or doubt arise upon the true knowledg, or division of anie rent or tithes within the liberties of the said Citie, or of anie extent or assessment hereof, or if any doubt rise upon any thing contained within this decree, Controversie. Lord Mayor.

That

That then upon complaint made by the party grieved to the Mayor of the Citie of London for the time being, the said Mayor by the advise of his Counsel, shall call the said parties before him, and make a final end in the same, with costs to be awarded at the discretion of the said Mayor and his assistants, according to the intent and purport of this present Decree.

Lord Chancellor.

And if the said Mayor make not an end thereof within two months after complaint to him made, or if anie of the said parties find themselves grieved, that then the Lord Chancellor of England for the time being, upon complaint to him made within three months then next following, shall make an end in the same, with such costs to be awarded as shall be thought convenient, according to the intent and purport of this said Decree.

Less rent.

Ruine.

Provided alwayes, That if any person or persons take any tenement for a less rent then it was accustomed to be letten for, by reason of any great ruine or decay, burning, or such like occasions or misfortunes: That then such person or persons, his executors or assigns shall pay tythes onely after the rate of the rent reserved in his or their lease, and none otherwise, as long as the same lease shall endure.

FINIS.